**Choice Book Assessment: Question 1**

As you consider the vision of American experience that your book presents, look at how the book grapples with the idea of what our culture represents – *who we are as Americans in terms of our ideals, how we live up to or fail to live up to those ideals.*

1. **CENTRAL IDEA** – describe in a specific, complex and opinionated statement about

* what your book/author suggests about America’s values;

according to the book, what do we, as Americans value?

you might consider how the book points out an important idea in America’s moral character (successes and/or failures) or how the book reveals an American value comment through how we spend our time, energy or money. Also you might consider how the book presents a problem in America’s values by considering a distinction between the values we talk about and the values we actually live.  
  
>> type your statement here:

1. **EVIDENCE** – select three pieces of evidence that support your claim about America’s values.

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| **QUOTATION**  Choose three important passages (scattered throughout the book – beginning, middle, end) – be careful in your quotation selection, considering details that help you write strong commentary  Use MLA citation (author page) | **COMMENTARY AND ANALYSIS**  Write a strong analysis that argues the significance of the passage BOTH within the text and that infers the ideas shown beyond the text. *This is not the place for plot recall. Plot recall is not analysis, thus no points.* | **LITERARY/RHETORICAL ANALYSIS**  Describe the author’s use of literary (theme, imagery, foreshadow, etc) OR rhetorical techniques (argumentation) that draw the reader’s attention to important ideas, so you should both name the technique and describe its impact in expressing a key idea |
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